" (*b*) There is no proposal now to remove any statue from its present location."

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHI :—" Sir, will the Government kindly consider the question of placing a tablet near each statue the tablet to contain a historical account of the person whom the statue represents? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" They are well-known figures and I do not think any tablet is necessary."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" May I know whether there has been any correspondence on this subject with the Central Government for decision as a matter of All-India policy? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Yes, Sir. There has been some correspondence between the Government of India and this Government. They wanted to have our opinion in this matter. They wanted to treat this matter as an All-India policy instead of allowing each State to adopt its own policy."

SRI V. V. RAMASWAMI :—" இந்த சிலைகளை எல்லாம் பாதுகாக்கும் பொறுப்புள்ள ஸ்தாபனம் எது? மில்லர் சிலை இருக்கும் இடம் மிகவும் ஆபாசமாகவும், அசுத்தமாகவும் இருப்பது சர்க்காருக்குத் தெரியுமா? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" If it is put on a public road, it is the Government's duty to keep it in proper condition. As for the allegation of the hon. Member that the Miller's statue is not properly kept, I shall look into it, Sir."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Will the Government consider the question of erecting status for our Ministers at Government expense? " (Laughter.)

Adoption of Government scales of pay for the teachers by certain municipal councils.

* 247 *Q.*—SRI V. V. RAMASWAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance and Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that Government have permitted certain Municipal Councils to adopt Government scales of pay for the teachers employed by them in elementary schools;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the above concession is not being extended now to such of the municipal councils which are willing to adopt Government scales of pay for teachers employed by them in elementary schools without extra aid from the Government; and

(*c*) if so, why?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) & (*b*) Yes, Sir.

" (*c*) The last revision of the scales of pay of teachers in elementary schools under local bodies was made recently and also many municipalities may not be in a position to meet the additional expenditure involved."

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SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHI :—" Sir, in view of the bold step taken by the Government to relieve the poor teachers of their distress, will the Government kindly instruct all municipalities to give top priority to this item in their budget? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I have already stated that the finances of the municipalities do not warrant any increase in the salaries of teachers at the present moment. The hon. Member may trust the Government to take necessary action at the appropriate time."

Improvement of Mahabalipuram as a holiday resort.

* 248 Q.—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) what steps have been taken by the Government to improve Mahabalipuram in Chingleput district as a holiday resort; and

(*b*) at what stage the construction of a rest-house in the place for the use of the visitors is?

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (*a*) The Government have taken up the improvement of the direct route from Madras to Mahabalipuram, via Tiruporur at an estimated cost of Rs. 3,24 lakhs with a contribution from the Government of India and the work is nearing completion.

" (*b*) This work, which is now estimated to cost Rs. 1·90 lakhs, will be started shortly, after informing the Government of India of the cost, as that Government is expected to bear a portion of the cost."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" Have plans and estimates for the construction of the rest house been approved and if so, are tenders being called for? "

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" Sir, plans and estimates are being prepared more or less in an agreed form. When we get the Government of India's approval, tenders will be called."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" May I know whether there is any proposal to constitute Mahabalipuram as a township and has there been a suggestion by the Archæological Department to that effect? "

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" Not that I know of, Sir."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" Will the Government consider the question of extending electricity to Mahabalipuram in view of the fact that it is being developed as a tourist centre and as a holiday resort? "

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" A separate question may be put, Sir."